

## SUPERINTENDENT'S COMPENDIUM

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Superintendent Date

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## INTRODUCTION

### A. What is the Superintendent's Compendium?

The St. Croix National Scenic Riverway Superintendent's Compendium is the summary of park specific rules implemented under the discretionary authority of the park Superintendent. It serves as public notice with an opportunity for public comment, identifies areas closed for public use, provides a list of activities requiring either a special use permit or reservation, and elaborates on those public use and resource protection regulations that pertain to the specific administration of the park. It does not contain those regulations found in 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and other United States Codes (U.S.C.) and CFR Titles which are enforced without further elaboration at the park level.

The regulations contained in 36 CFR Parts 1-7 are the basic mechanism used by the National Park Service (NPS) to preserve and protect the natural and cultural resources of the park and to protect visitors and property within the park. Parts 1 through 6 are general regulations applicable to all areas of the National Park System, and Part 7 contains special regulations specific to individual parks. Each of these Parts has many sections and subsections articulating specific provisions. Within some of these Part 1-7 sections and subsections, the Superintendent is granted discretionary authority to develop local rules to be responsive to the needs of a specific park resource or activity, park plan, program, and/or special needs of the general public.

As an example, 36 CFR 1.5(a) *Closures and Public Use Limits* provides the Superintendent certain discretion in allowing or disallowing certain activities. The authority granted by this Section, however, requires the Superintendent to comply with the Administrative Procedures Act (5 USC Section 551) which requires public notice on actions with major impact on visitor use patterns, park resources or those that are highly controversial in nature.

Another example is 36 CFR 1.6 *Permits*, which allows the Superintendent to require a permit for certain uses and activities in the park. This Section, however, requires that a list of activities needing a permit (and a fee schedule for the various types of permits) be maintained by the park.

A final example is 36 CFR 2.1(c)(1) *Preservation of Natural, Cultural and Archeological Resources*, which provides the Superintendent the authority to designate certain fruits, nuts or unoccupied seashells which may be gathered by hand for personal use. This activity can occur, however, only if a written determination shows that the allowed activity does not adversely affect park wildlife, the reproductive potential of a plant species or otherwise adversely affect park resources.

This compendium should be used in conjunction with 36 CFR; Sections 1-7 to more fully understand the regulations governing the use and enjoyment of all the areas of the National Park System.

A copy of 36 CFR can be purchased from the U.S. Government Printing Office website at <http://bookstore.gpo.gov> Or by calling, toll free, 866-512-1800. All titles of the Code of Federal Regulations are available for viewing on-line at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/index.html>

## **B. What laws and policies allow the Superintendent to develop this Compendium?**

The NPS is granted broad statutory authority in 16 U.S.C. Section 1 *et seq.* (National Park Service Organic Act of 1916, as amended) to "...regulate the use of the Federal areas known as national parks, monuments, and reservations...by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purposes of the said parks...which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment for future generations" (16 U.S.C. Section 1). In addition, the Organic Act allows the NPS, through the Secretary of the Interior, to "make and publish such rules and regulations as he may deem necessary or proper for the use and management of the parks, monuments, and reservations under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service" (16 U.S.C. Section 3).

In 1970, Congress amended the NPS Organic Act to clarify its intentions as to the overall mission of the NPS. Through the General Authorities Act of 1970 (16 U.S.C. Sections 1a1 - 1a8), Congress brought all areas administered by the NPS into one National Park System and directed the NPS to manage all areas under its administration consistent with the Organic Act of 1916.

In 1978, Congress amended the General Authorities Act of 1970 and reasserted Systemwide the high standard of protection defined in the original Organic Act by stating "Congress further reaffirms, declares, and directs that the promotion and regulation of the various areas of the National Park System, as defined by Section 1 of this Title, shall be consistent with and founded in the purpose established by Section 1 of this Title, to the common benefit of all people of the United States."

16 U.S.C. Section 1c defines the National Park System as "...any areas of land and water now or hereafter administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the National Park Service for park, monument, historic, parkway, recreational, or other purposes."

In addition to the above statutory authority, the Superintendent is also guided by established NPS policy as found in the *NPS Management Policies* (2006). As stated in this policy document, the primary responsibility of the NPS is to protect and preserve our national natural and cultural resources while providing for the enjoyment of these resources by visitors and other users, as long as use does not impair specific park resources or overall visitor experience. The appropriateness of any particular visitor use or recreational experience is resource based and will vary from park to park; therefore, a use or activity that is appropriate in one park area may not be appropriate in another. Each park Superintendent is directed to analyze overall park use and determine if any particular use is appropriate. Where conflict arises between use and resource protection, where the Superintendent has a basis to believe a resource is or would become impaired, then that Superintendent is obliged to place limitations on public use.

## **C. Does this Compendium comply with applicable Federal law and requirements?**

The Superintendent's Compendium is not considered a significant rule requiring review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Order 12866. In addition, this Compendium does not have a significant economic effect on a number of small entities nor impose a significant cost on any local, state or tribal government or private organization and therefore does not fall under the requirements of either the Regulatory Flexibility Act or the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

Nothing in this Compendium requires review as a water resources project in compliance with Section 7 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

In compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, as amended, the NPS has determined that the implementation of this Compendium will not adversely affect any federally listed threatened or endangered species, or designated critical habitat.

The actions and requirements described in this Compendium are found to be categorically excluded from compliance with the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in Department of the Interior (DOI) Guidelines 516 DM 6 and as such an Environmental Assessment will not be prepared.

#### **D. How are the requirements of the Superintendent's Compendium developed?**

As outlined above, the NPS has broad authority and responsibility to determine what types of uses and activities are appropriate in any particular National Park System area. The requirements of the Superintendent's Compendium are developed through an analysis and determination process. The decision criteria used during this process are:

- Is the use or activity consistent with the National Park Service Organic Act and NPS policy?
- Is the use or activity consistent and compatible with the park's enabling legislation, management objectives, and corresponding management plans?
- Will the use or activity damage or impair the park's protected natural and cultural resources and other protected values?
- Will the use or activity disturb or be in conflict with wildlife, vegetation, and environmental protection actions and values?
- Will the use or activity conflict with or be incompatible with traditional park uses and activities?
- Will the use or activity compromise employee or public safety?

#### **E. Where does this Compendium apply?**

The regulations contained in this Compendium apply to all persons entering, using, visiting or otherwise within the boundaries of Federally owned lands and waters administered by the NPS as part of the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway. This includes all water subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, including all navigable waters and areas within their ordinary reach (up to the ordinary high water mark) without regard to the ownership of the submerged lands or lowlands.

The regulations contained in this Compendium do not apply on Federally owned lands and waters administered by another department or agency, on lands owned by the States of Minnesota and Wisconsin and their local political subdivisions, on Indian tribal trust lands, or on private lands, except those lands which are administered by the NPS for public use purposes pursuant to the terms of a written agreement or lease.

The Federally managed portion of the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway includes the St. Croix River and environs from the north city limits of Stillwater, Minnesota upstream to the Gordon Dam near Gordon, Wisconsin and the Namekagon River and environs from its confluence with the St. Croix River near Riverside Landing, Wisconsin upstream to just north of the Namekagon Dam northeast of Cable, Wisconsin.

This Compendium does not apply in the State administered area of the Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway from the north city limits of Stillwater, Minnesota downstream along the St. Croix River to its confluence with the Mississippi River near Prescott, Wisconsin.

#### **F. Who enforces the requirements of this Compendium?**

Only NPS Law Enforcement Park Rangers can enforce the requirements of the United States Code and CFR Titles and this Superintendent's Compendium. However, many Federal laws and regulations have similar statutes found in State and local law. Many of the requirements of this Compendium complement existing State and local law and regulations which are also in effect within the park and enforced by State and local law enforcement officers.

#### **G. Is there a penalty for not adhering to the requirements found in this Compendium?**

A person who violates any provision of the regulations found in 36 CFR Parts 1-7, along with this compendium, is subject to a fine as provided by law (18 U.S.C. 3571) up to \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations, or by imprisonment not exceeding six months (18 U.S.C. 3559), or both, and shall be adjudged to pay all court costs associated with any court proceedings. You may receive a list of Federal Court approved fines associated with any particular provision of this Compendium or any section in 36 CFR Parts 1-7 by contacting the Chief Ranger, Resource Protection, at the park address found below.

#### **H. How do I provide comment on this Compendium?**

The park welcomes comments about its programs and activities at any time. Any changes to this Compendium recommended by the public or others, and accepted by the Superintendent, will be incorporated into this compendium without further public comment and review.

Please send any written comments to:

Superintendent  
St. Croix National Scenic Riverway  
401 North Hamilton Street  
St. Croix Falls, WI 54024  
ATT: 2009 Superintendent's Compendium

Or e-mail your comments to: SACN\_Ranger\_Activities@nps.gov. Please title the subject box: Superintendent's Compendium.

#### **I. When will the Compendium become effective?**

The St. Croix NSR Superintendent's Compendium, which replaces the Compendium dated March 20, 2008 will become effective on March 29, 2009 and will remain in effect until superseded.

#### **J. Is there anything else I need to know about this compendium?**

Some of the terms used in this Compendium may be unclear to you. If you are unsure about a specific term please consult 36 CFR 1.4 *Definitions*. Terms that may be unique to this Compendium will be defined.

#### **K. Where may I find a copy of this Compendium once it is approved?**

The St. Croix Riverway Superintendent's Compendium may be found on the Riverway web site at:  
<http://www.nps.gov/sacn/parkmgmt/lawsandpolicies.htm>

If you are not able to download a copy, call (715) 483-2274 and we will mail you one.

## **PART 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **Are there any closures or public use limits imposed within the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway?**

#### **Section 1.5 - Closures and Public Use Limit**

##### **Section 1.5(a) (1)**

###### General Public Use

All public use in any area closed by the Superintendent and identified with an official sign is prohibited. This includes all park maintenance facility compounds. These compounds and facilities are found on Polk County Road S near Osceola, Wisconsin, behind the Marshland Education Center on Highway 70 near Pine City, Minnesota and behind the Namekagon Visitor Center in Trego, Wisconsin.

In addition, areas may be temporarily closed for a variety of reasons including site restoration, protection of at risk endangered or threatened animal and plant species, and protection of fragile cultural and historic sites.

###### Visiting Hours

Osceola Day Use Picnic Area – The Osceola Day Use Picnic Area and associated roadway and parking lots is open for public use between the hours of 8:00am – sundown daily from April 01 through November 15. The Osceola Day Use Picnic Area is located on Highway 243 across the St. Croix River from Osceola, Wisconsin.

The Fairy Falls Day Use Area (LOSA Tracts 13-135 and 136) is open for public use between the hours of 8:00am - 8:00pm daily. The Fairy Falls Day Use Area is located near the City of Stillwater, Minnesota and on the west side of Highway 95 in Stillwater Township, Washington County, Minnesota.

The Arcola Bluffs Day Use Area (Foster Property LOSA Tracts 11-121, 123, 124, 126, 130 and 154) is open for public use between the hours of 8:00am – 8:00pm daily. The Arcola Bluffs Day Use Area is located east of Highway 95 along the Arcola Trail north of Stillwater, Minnesota in Stillwater Township, Washington County, Minnesota.

###### Public Use Limits

*Hunting- see Section 2.2(b) (1)*

Areas closed to hunting:

Hunting is prohibited within 500 feet of any building, administrative compound, or public use facility administered by the Riverway, within 100 feet of any designated campsite, or within 50 feet of any road. This includes discharging a firearm, shooting an arrow from a bow, or shooting a bolt from a crossbow towards any building, administrative compound, public use facility, or designated campsite or across any road. Shooting towards or across any designated public hiking trail is also prohibited.

In addition hunting is prohibited in the following areas:

- All of LOSA Tracts 13-107, 13-113, 13-123, 13-124, and 13-133, located near the City of Stillwater, Minnesota and along Highway 95 in Stillwater Township, Washington County, Minnesota
- Part of SACN Tract 49-160, located adjacent to Camp Sunrise in Chisago County, Minnesota
- All of SACN Tract 54-108, located adjacent to St. Croix Wild River State Park in Chisago County, Minnesota
- All of SACN Tract 56-126 west of Highway 16 adjacent to Wild Mountain Recreation Area in Chisago County, Minnesota

All areas closed to hunting will be posted.



Areas where hunting is limited to specific conditions:

The Fairy Falls Day Use Area (LOSA Tracts 13-135 and 136) is open to deer archery hunting only. The Fairy Falls Day Use Area is located near the City of Stillwater, Minnesota and on the west side of Highway 95 in Stillwater Township, Washington County, Minnesota.

The Arcola Bluffs Day Use Area (LOSA Tracts 11-121, 123, 124, 126, 130 and 154) is open to deer archery and firearms (shotgun) hunting only. The Arcola Bluffs Day Use Area is located east of Highway 95 along the Arcola Trail north of Stillwater, Minnesota in Stillwater Township, Washington County, Minnesota.

### Glass

Glass containers of any kind are prohibited on lands and waters within the Riverway.

### Geocaching

Geocaching anywhere within the ordinary high water mark along the St. Croix River from Stillwater, MN north to the Gordon Dam in Wisconsin or along the Namekagon River from its confluence with the St. Croix River to the Namekagon Dam near Cable, Wisconsin, or on any lands owned or administered by the National Park Service is prohibited.

### Paint-balling

The possession and/or use of a paint-ball gun, or similar device, are prohibited.

## **Do I need a permit to participate in certain activities?**

### **Section 1.6 - Permits**

#### **Section 1.6(f)**

The following activities on lands and waters owned or administered by the National Park Service require a written permit from the National Park Service:

#### Special Use Permits

- Research specimen collection - 36 CFR 2.5(a)
- Special events including all sporting events/races, pageants, contests, auto shows and boat regattas/races, company picnics, ceremonies of any kind or size, partisan political events and other similar activities - 36 CFR 2.50(a)
- Public assemblies and meetings - 36 CFR 2.51(a)
- Sale and distribution of printed materials - 36 CFR 2.52(a)
- Grazing and agricultural use - 36 CFR 2.60(b)
- Residing on park lands - 36 CFR 2.61(a)
- Memorialization and scattering of human ashes - 36 CFR 2.62(b)
- Vessel passing upstream of the High Bridge (mile 28.5) - 36 CFR 3.3 & 7.9 (c)(2)
- Camping Permit for overnight camping from Highway 8 (mile 52.5) to Soo Line High Bridge

## Commercial Permits

- Advertisements - 36 CFR 5.1
- Business Operations, including canoe, kayak and tube outfitters, fishing guide services – 36 CFR 5.3
- Commercial filming - 36 CFR 5.5(a)
- Commercial photography - 36 CFR 5.5(b)
- Construction activities including buildings, docks, roads, trails, paths, other ways, telephone lines, power lines, and other public and private utilities - 36 CFR 5.7

Engaging in any of the above activities without a permit is prohibited. Information regarding permits is available by calling 715-483-2261.

## **PART 2 - RESOURCE PROTECTION, PUBLIC USE AND RECREATION**

### **May I collect and keep natural, cultural and/or archeological resources found in the park?**

#### **Section 2.1 - Preservation of natural, cultural and archeological resources**

The collection or possession of any cultural, historic, or archeological resource is prohibited.

##### **Section 2.1(a) (4) - Firewood**

It is prohibited to possess, store or transport any firewood that originates from outside the states of Minnesota and Wisconsin and from a source more than 50 miles from the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway. Firewood from an approved pest-free firewood vendor is allowed. This prohibition is put in place to protect forested areas from infestations of emerald ash borer, gypsy moth, Sirex wood wasp, Asian long-horned beetle, and a number of other wood-boring insects. It also protects against decay, fungi and pathogens that cause Dutch elm disease, oak wilt and sudden oak death.

Dead and down wood, including driftwood may be collected for personal use in the park by park visitors as campfire fuel along and in shoreland areas. Firewood may not be gathered from any island or adjacent to any park administrative facility including any park offices, visitor centers, or maintenance facilities and compounds.

Residents occupying federal land within the park boundary under a use and occupancy lease or residing-in-the-park special use permit may collect dead and down wood from these lands in sufficient quantities for their use as heating fuel. Such wood may not be removed from the park.

Owners of lands within the park covered by a scenic, riverfront or conservation easement may collect dead and down wood from their land in sufficient quantities for their use as a heating fuel. Such wood may not be sold or removed from the park without written agreement of the Superintendent.

Cutting live or dead standing trees is prohibited except by written agreement of the Superintendent under the terms of a use and occupancy lease, residing-in-the-park special use permit, or scenic, riverfront or conservation easement.

##### **Section 2.1(c) (1) - Collection and use of fruits, berries, nuts, or unoccupied mussel shells**

The gathering by hand of edible fruits, berries and nuts for personal use or consumption on site is permitted. This includes the gathering of edible mushrooms or morels, but does not include the tapping of maple trees, or any other tree species, for sap.

The gathering and use of all live and dead mussels and empty mussel shells is prohibited.

Wild rice may be gathered and removed from the park in accordance with appropriate state law.

The subsistence gathering and removal of fruits, berries, nuts and other vegetation by Native American Indians for personal use is allowed in accordance with applicable treaties and tribal rules and regulations.

The collection of wildflowers is prohibited.

### **May I hunt in the park?**

#### **Section 2.2 - Wildlife Protection**

##### **Section 2.2(b) (1) - Hunting**

Except in those area designated in Section 1.5(a)(1) where hunting is either prohibited or limited to specific use conditions (page 8), hunting is allowed in the park in accordance with applicable Federal, State, and Tribal laws and regulations, with the following special conditions:

Hunting is prohibited within 500 feet of any building, administrative compound, or public use facility administered by the Riverway, within 100 feet of any designated campsite, or within 50 feet of any road. This includes discharging a firearm, shooting an arrow from a bow, or shooting a bolt from a crossbow towards any building, administrative compound, public use facility, or designated campsite, across any road or across the St. Croix or Namekagon Rivers. Shooting towards or across any major public use hiking trail is also prohibited.

Building or hunting from a tree stand or other elevated device which is affixed to a tree by nails, spikes, lag-bolts, screws, or similar device is prohibited. The use of screw-in ladder steps is also prohibited.

Construction of a permanent hunting stand is prohibited. Temporary stands are allowed as long as they cause no damage to vegetation and are removed each day at the close of hunting hours.

Clearing vegetation or brush for a shooting lane is prohibited.

##### **Section 2.2(b) (3) - Trapping**

Trapping is prohibited on all Federally owned lands administered by the NPS. Trapping is also prohibited within the water column up to the ordinary high water mark adjacent to Federally owned lands in Wisconsin, except by Native American Indians in accordance with applicable treaties and Federal, state and tribal laws, rules and regulations. Trapping is allowed within the water column up to the ordinary high water mark adjacent to Federally owned lands in Minnesota.

Trapping is allowed on private lands (with owner's permission) and on state and county public lands and adjacent waters in accordance with applicable state laws and regulations.

##### **Section 2.2(e) - Shining**

Wildlife viewing or hunting with any type of artificial light (including laser sights for bow or firearm) is prohibited in the park, except while shooting raccoon, fox or an unprotected species at the point of kill while hunting on foot in accordance with applicable state laws.

### **May I fish in the park?**

#### **Section 2.3 - Fishing**

Fishing in the park is allowed in accordance with applicable Federal, state, and tribal laws and regulations, with the following special conditions:

### **Section 2.3(c) - Closures**

The small pond located at park headquarters in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin is closed to all fishing.

### **Section 2.3(d) (2) - Non-native bait**

The use of non-native bait is permitted in accordance with applicable Federal, state and tribal laws and regulations. However, the dumping or release of live bait into the St. Croix or Namekagon Rivers is prohibited.

The use of live crayfish as bait on the St. Croix and Namekagon Rivers is prohibited.

### **Section 2.3(d) (6) - Digging for bait.**

Digging for bait is prohibited, except on privately owned lands by the owner or with permission of the owner. The taking, possessing, transporting or using of live bait from the St. Croix and Namekagon Rivers is prohibited.

### **Section 2.3(d) (8) - Fishing from bridges**

Fishing from any bridge is prohibited.

### **May I have weapons in the park?**

#### **Section 2.4**

The possession of a weapon in the park is allowed, in association with hunting as allowed by Federal and state law.

Carrying a concealed or other weapon will be in accordance with state or local law. Possession of a concealed weapon in federal buildings is only allowed by duly authorized Federal, State and local law enforcement officers, in the performance of their official duties.

Unloaded weapons may be possessed when they are rendered inoperable or are packed, cased or stored in a manner that will prevent their ready use.

Target practice or sighting in of weapons is prohibited.

### **May I camp in the park?**

#### **Section 2.10 - Camping and food storage**

Camping is allowed in the park in accordance with the regulations found in 36 CFR 2.10 *Camping and food storage*, with the following special conditions:

##### **Section 2.10(a) - Conditions**

##### **Upper St. Croix and Namekagon Rivers**

Camping along the St. Croix River from the Xcel (NSP) Dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylor's Falls (mile 53) upstream to the Gordon Dam and along the entire Namekagon River is limited to designated sites only. Length of stay for any particular campsite is three nights; all campsites must be vacated by noon the day after the last night's stay. The maximum length of stay on the St. Croix River and Namekagon River is 30 days between May 15 and September 15. Campsites accommodate up to 8 people and 3 tents. Group sites accommodate up to 16 people and 6 tents.

Howell Landing East and West are considered to be one site.

From the Xcel (NSP) dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylors Falls upstream to Nevers Dam, self-contained vessels may tie up for night anchorage anywhere along the shoreline except at designated campsites and on private property. The designated onshore campsites are reserved for the use of those traveling by small motor boat, canoe or kayak. Passengers on self contained vessels must use on-board toilet facilities and may not build campfires or erect tents on the shore. Camping where the primary means of travel to the site is by motor vehicle, ATV, bicycle, or other land-based mode of transportation is prohibited.

## **Lower St. Croix River**

### From Franconia Landing to the Soo Line (Arcola) High Bridge

Camping on NPS lands from US Highway 8 at Taylors Falls, MN – St. Croix Falls, WI to the Soo Line (Arcola) High Bridge (river mile s29.5) is permitted with a free seasonal permit issued from the NPS Visitor Center in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin. Camping is restricted to designated individual and group sites on the main channel. A designated site is a site marked with a sign and contains a steel fire ring provided by the park. Campfires are permitted only in the provided metal fire ring. Individual sites accommodate up to 8 people and group sites from 9-16 people. Campers are required to possess and use portable toilets or on-board facilities on self-contained boats at these campsites. Campsites must be occupied on the first night of stay with the Camp Permit clearly posted on the tent. A site can be occupied by the same individual or group for a maximum of 3 consecutive days and cumulatively for 30 days between May 15 and September 15. Park Rangers check campsites on a regular basis. Unoccupied campsites will be marked with an orange tag and rechecked 24 hours later. If the site still appears unoccupied, the NPS will remove the equipment.

### From the Soo (Arcola) Line High Bridge to north Stillwater (Boomsite Landing)

Camping from the Soo Line (Arcola) High Bridge to north Stillwater is limited to islands only. Areas suitable for camping are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. All users are required to possess and use portable toilets or on-board facilities on self-contained boats unless they are on Mile Long Island where vault toilets are provided. Tents must be occupied on the first night of stay. A site can be occupied by the same individual or group for a maximum of 7 consecutive days and cumulatively for 30 days between May 15 and September 15. Park Rangers check tents on a regular basis. Unoccupied tents will be marked with an orange tag and rechecked 24 hours later. If the site still appears unoccupied, the NPS will remove all the equipment.

Camping is prohibited where posted as "*no camping*" or "*area closed for restoration*" and in the following locations:

- The Osceola Picnic Area.
- Between Dead Man's Slough, Wisconsin upstream to the southern tip of Greenburg Island, at William O'Brien State Park including all islands; this zone corresponds roughly to the area opposite and along the south to north city limits of Marine on St. Croix, Minnesota.

## **May I picnic in the park?**

### **Section 2.11 - Picnicking**

Picnicking is allowed anywhere in the park except:

- In areas closed to the public and posted in accordance with 36 CFR 1.5(a) (1).
- On Federally owned lands under the terms of a use and occupancy lease or residing-in-the-park special use permit, without prior approval of the legal occupant.

The picnic shelters at the Osceola Landing Picnic Area may be reserved. A sign on the shelter will indicate when they are reserved and any other use by the public is prohibited. When not reserved they are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Group size at these shelters is limited to **50** individuals and may involve the need for a special use permit.

**May I use an audio device, power saws, portable motors, generators, or other portable motor, engine or powered devices in the park?**

**Section 2.12 - Audio disturbances**

**Section 2.12(a) (1) - Audio devices**

Radios, televisions, tape decks and other similar audio devices may be operated within the park as long as they meet standards listed in 36 CFR 2.12(a)(1) and do not interfere with the use of the area by other individuals. Excessive loudness is prohibited. These devices may not be operated during posted quiet hours, 10:00 p.m. - 6:00 a.m.

**Section 2.12 - Power saws, generators**

Operation of a chain saw, portable motor, generator or similar device within the park is prohibited except:

- On Federally owned lands under the terms of a use and occupancy lease or residing-in-the-park special use permit by the legal occupant pursuant to the terms of the lease or permit

**May I have a fire in the park?**

**Section 2.13 - Fires**

**Section 2.13(a) (1) - Conditions**

Campfires are permitted at designated campsites only and must be contained in the provided fire ring. Cook-fires are permitted in designated picnic areas and must be contained in the provided grills, or in a portable grill or stove brought to the park by an individual. Constructing a rock-ring, or lighting a fire in a rock-ring, is prohibited except on the islands below the Sioux Line High Bridge.

**Section 2.13(b) - Unattended fires**

No fire shall be left unattended. All campfires and cook-fires will be out and cold before any site is permanently vacated or simply left for the day.

**Section 2.13(c) - Fire closures**

During periods of elevated fire danger open fires will be prohibited in accordance with appropriate State and local fire bans. Notice of any fire restriction will be posted at all visitor centers, landings, and other major public use facilities. Smoking will not be allowed in the backcountry during posted fire bans.

**What do I do with my trash after I visit or use the park?**

**Section 2.14 - Sanitation and refuse**

**Section 2.14(a) (1) - Disposing of refuse**

All refuse will be removed from the park by park users in accordance with the park's carry in, carry out policy. Leaving of refuse in the park is prohibited.

**Section 2.14(a) (2) - Use of refuse containers, where provided**

Small refuse containers are found at park visitor centers. These containers shall be used only for the disposal of incidental refuse associated with a visit to the visitor center.

**Section 2.14(a) (7) - Disposal of fish remains**

Fish remains shall be buried away from the shoreline or at least 50 feet from any developed campsite, landing, picnic area, or other developed facility.

**Section 2.14(a) (9) - Disposal of human waste**

Where a pit toilet is not provided or available, human waste must be buried at least 6 inches under ground and a minimum of 100 feet from any water source, high water mark, trail or other developed facility.

**Section 2.14(b) - Wastes from boats**

Dumping of human waste into any water source is prohibited. All human waste from boats must be disposed of at an approved marina waste dump station.

**May I have pets in the park?**

**Section 2.15 - Pets**

**Section 2.15(a) (1) - Park buildings and other public use facilities**

Pets are not allowed in any public building or office, except for service animals.

Pets are allowed in all other areas of the park as long as they have a collar with an identification tag, are vaccinated, have valid vaccination tags and are on a leash no longer than six feet in length.

**Section 2.15(a) (5) - Excrement control**

Persons in the park must promptly dispose of all pet excrement. Excrement must be gathered up and removed from the park, or buried at least six inches underground and 100 feet from any trail, campsite, building, picnic area, landing, or water source.

**Section 2.15(e) - Government quarters and other federally owned structures and lands used under the terms of a use and occupancy lease or residing-in-the-park special use permit**

Pets are not allowed in government quarters, except by written permission of the Superintendent. When multiple occupancies of quarters exist, pets are prohibited.

Up to five pets are allowed on federally owned lands and in federally owned buildings under the terms of a use and occupancy lease or a residing-in-the-park special use permit by the legal occupant pursuant to the terms of the lease or permit.

**May I ride a horse in the park?**

**Section 2.16 - Horse and pack animals**

**Section 2.16(b) - Designated areas and conditions**

Day use of riding horses is permitted on the Sandrock Cliff Trail between the Highway 70 Landing and the Sandrock Cliff parking lot in Wisconsin. Horses are not allowed in the Sandrock Cliff camping or picnic area. These trails are not maintained to NPS standards for horseback riding use. All horseback use is at the risk of the owner/rider.

Day use of riding horses is permitted on the trails in the Arcola Bluffs Day Use Area unless otherwise posted as closed for restoration purposes. Currently, there is an area posted as "Closed to Horses", to prevent the introduction of weed seeds. These trails are not maintained to NPS standards for horseback riding use. All horseback use is at the risk of the owner/rider.

Horse use is prohibited on all other park trails in both Minnesota and Wisconsin, including the St. Croix Trail through the park in Minnesota.

The use of pack animals in the park is prohibited.

### **May I ride my snowmobile in the park?**

#### **Section 2.18 - Snowmobiles**

##### **Section 2.18(c) - Designated areas and closures**

Snowmobile use is allowed on the frozen surface of the St. Croix River and on designated trails and river crossings in accordance with this Section and 36 CFR 7.9(a), and in accordance with applicable State and local laws and regulations, except:

- On the St. Croix River from the Highway 243 Bridge at Osceola, Wisconsin north to the Xcel (NSP) Power Hydroelectric Dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylor's Falls
- On the St. Croix River from the Highway 35 Bridge at Riverside north to the Gordon Dam

Snowmobile use on the Namekagon River is prohibited except at designated river crossings.

Snowmobiling is allowed on the following flowages in accordance with this section and 36CFR 7.9(a), and in accordance with applicable State and local laws and regulations:

- Pacwawong Flowage
- Hayward Flowage
- Trego Flowage

##### **Section 2.18(d) (4) - Speed**

Snowmobile speed within the park is 45 mph unless otherwise posted. Speeds in excess of 45 mph may be permitted during authorized snowmobile races and events in accordance with the terms of a special use permit.

### **What other winter activities are available in the park?**

#### **Section 2.19 - Winter activities**

All traditional winter activities including cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, ice fishing, and winter camping are allowed in the park. Camping will be in accordance with 36 CFR 2.10 and the special conditions found in this Compendium. Please note the special conditions found in Section 2.22 regarding the construction of ice fishing structures.



Snowshoeing on groomed cross-country ski trails is prohibited.

### **May I smoke in the park?**

#### **Section 2.21 - Smoking**

Smoking in any park owned or leased building, vehicle, vessel or government residence is prohibited except:

- In any building covered by a use and occupancy lease or residing-in-the-park special use permit with permission of the legal occupant.

Smoking is prohibited in the backcountry during posted fire bans.

### **May I leave an ice-fishing structure up longer than 24 hours? May I park my car in the park for more than 24 hours?**

#### **Section 2.22 - Property**

##### **Section 2.22(a) (2) - Exceptions to the 24 hour abandoned property rule**

No property shall be left in the park unattended for more than 24 hours except:

- Structures used for fishing during ice fishing season may be left on the ice for more than 24 hours in accordance with applicable State laws and regulations.
- Visitors camping in the park may leave their vehicles and boat trailers unattended for more than 24 hours at designated parking areas.

### **May I consume alcoholic beverages in the park?**

#### **Section 2.35 - Alcoholic Beverages**

##### **Section 2.35(a) (3) - Prohibited areas**

The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages at the Osceola Day Use Picnic Area and Landing, Eagles Nest Campsites (mile 48.5), in the area known as Fairy Falls Day Use Area (LOSA Tract 13-136) and in the area known as the Arcola Bluff Day Use Area (LOSA Tracts 11-121, 123, 124, 126, 130 and 134) is prohibited.

The consumption of alcoholic beverages in any park owned or leased building, vehicle, or vessel is prohibited except:

- The consumption of alcoholic beverages is allowed in any building covered by a use and occupancy lease or residing-in-the-park special use permit with permission of the legal occupant and in employee residences.

### **Are public assemblies, including demonstrations and other expressions of First Amendment rights 34allowed in the park?**

#### **Section 2.51 - Public Assemblies**

##### **Section 2.51(e) - Locations and conditions**

A special use permit is required for all public assemblies, gatherings, demonstrations and other public expressions of opinions within the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway. Written applications for permits must be submitted to the Superintendent within a reasonable timeframe prior to the date desired for the event; processing usually requires at least 48 hours. The activity must not conflict with any scheduled NPS function or program. The following area

has been designated as available for public assemblies, pursuant to a permit: the area on the south side of the Headquarters parking lot located in St. Croix Falls, WI. Public assemblies are generally prohibited in all other areas of the park.

**May I sell or distribute in the park printed materials in association with public assemblies and other First Amendment activities?**

**Section 2.52 - Sale and distribution of printed materials**

**Section 2.52(e) - Locations and conditions**

The sale or distribution of printed materials in association with public assemblies and other First Amendment activities is allowed on the south side of the Headquarters parking lot. A special use permit is required for all public assemblies. The sale or distribution of printed materials in all other areas of the park is prohibited.

**May I scatter human ashes in the park?**

**Section 2.62 - Memorialization**

**Section 2.62(b) - Conditions**

The scattering of human ashes is permitted within the park under the terms and conditions of a special use permit. No ashes will be scattered from an airplane flying less than 2,000 feet above the park. No teeth or identifiable human bones shall be included in the ashes.

**PART 3 - BOATING AND WATER USE ACTIVITIES**

**Do I need a permit to boat in the park?**

**Section 3.3 – Am I required to obtain a permit to operate a vessel in a park area?**

Travel on the St. Croix River by vessel from the south upstream past the High Bridge (mile 29.5) towards the Xcel (NSP) dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylor Falls, except under the terms and conditions of a permit, is prohibited.

**What are the Riverway Personal Floatation Device (PFD) requirements?**

**Section 3.7 – What are the NPS Personal Floatation Device (PFD) requirements?**

**Section 3.7(b) – Special requirements**

In addition to all U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) requirements found in Title 33 Code of Federal Regulations part 175, children under the age of 13 are required to wear a USCG approved PFD while on or operating any watercraft on the water, to include non-tradition self propelled watercraft such as float tubes, inner tubes, inflatable rafts that one lies on or any homemade device that floats and is used for transportation downstream with the current.

**May I use my personal watercraft anywhere in the park?**

**Section 3.9 – May I operate my personal watercraft (PWC) in park waters?**

**Section 3.9(a) - Designated areas and closures**

Personal watercraft use is prohibited on the St. Croix River from the north city limits of Stillwater, MN north to Gordon Dam and on the Namekagon River from its confluence near Riverside, WI east to the Namekagon Dam near Cable, WI.

### **May I water-ski in the park?**

#### **Section 3.12 – May I use a vessel to tow a person for water skiing or other similar activities?**

##### **Section 3.12(a) - Designated areas, otherwise prohibited**

Water-skiing or towing a person is permitted in accordance with state and local laws and regulations in the following areas:

- On the St. Croix River from the north city limits of Stillwater, Minnesota upstream to the Arcola Sandbar; from May 15 through September 15 towing in this area is prohibited after noon on Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays. Towing at any time in a designated slow/no wake zone is prohibited. Traveling upstream past the High Bridge while skiing (Mile 28.5) is also prohibited.
- On the St. Croix River from the Xcel (NSP) Hydroelectric Dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylors Falls upstream to the Nevers Dam Landing (Indianhead Flowage)
- On the Namekagon River from the Trego Dam upstream to the Highway 53 Bridge (Trego Flowage)
- On the Namekagon River from the Hayward Dam upstream to the Highway 77 bridge (Hayward Flowage)

### **May I swim in the Riverway?**

#### **Section 3.16 – May I swim or wade in park waters?**

##### **Section 3.16 – Areas designated closed to swimming**

Swimming is allowed anywhere in the riverway except for the following.

- Swimming is prohibited in the St. Croix River downstream from the Highway 8 Bridge to the public boat launch at Wisconsin Interstate State Park.
- Swimming in the St. Croix River adjacent to Minnesota Interstate State Park is also prohibited in accordance with Minnesota regulations.

*ADVISORY* - Swimming in the St. Croix River from the Xcel (NSP) Hydroelectric Dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylors Falls downstream to the Highway 8 Bridge is not recommended due to fluctuating water levels and strong currents.

- Jumping or diving into the river from any vertical cliff, tree, swing-rope, bridge or other structure, except from private property with permission of the landowner, is prohibited.

## **PART 4 - VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC SAFETY**

### **May I bicycle in the park?**

#### **Section 4.30 - Bicycles**

Bicycles and other non-motorized means of conveyance are permitted on established park roads and parking lots in accordance with applicable State and local laws and regulations. Operation of a bicycle or other similar non-motorized conveyance on park trails except under the terms of a Special Use Permit is prohibited.

## **PART 7 - SPECIAL REGULATIONS, AREAS OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM**

**Are there any special regulations pertaining specifically to the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway that I need to be aware of?**

Regulations specific to any particular National Park System area are found in 36 CFR Part 7. The St. Croix National Scenic Riverway has three specific regulations found in 36 CFR Part 7, Section 7.9. These regulations deal with snowmobiling - 7.9(a), fishing - 7.9(b), and the control of vessel and boat trailer borne exotic species - 7.9(c). Specific conditions and requirements associated with these activities are outlined here and in other sections described above.

### **Section 7.9(a) - Snowmobiles**

Snowmobile use is allowed on the frozen surface of the St. Croix River and on designated trails and river crossings in accordance with this Section and 36 CFR 2.18, and in accordance with applicable non-conflicting State and local laws and regulations, except:

- On the St. Croix River from the Highway 243 Bridge at Osceola, Wisconsin north to the Xcel (NSP) Hydroelectric Dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylor Falls
- On the St. Croix River from the Highway 35 Bridge at Riverside north to the Gordon Dam
- Hayward flowage, Trego flowage, Pacwawong

Snowmobile use on the Namekagon River is prohibited except at designated river crossings.

Snowmobile speed within the park is 45 mph unless otherwise posted.

### **Section 7.9(b) - Fishing**

Fishing in the park is allowed in accordance with this Section and 36 CFR 2.3, and in accordance with applicable Federal, state, and tribal laws and regulations, with the following special conditions:

- The use of non-native bait is permitted in accordance with applicable Federal, state and tribal laws and regulations. The use of live crayfish as bait is prohibited.
- Fishing from any bridge is prohibited.
- Structures used for fishing during ice fishing season may be left on the ice for more than 24 hours in accordance with applicable State laws and regulations.

### **Section 7.9(c) - Vessels**

Travel on the St. Croix River from the south, upstream by vessel, past the High Bridge (mile 29.5) toward the Xcel (NSP) dam at St. Croix Falls/Taylor Falls, is prohibited, except under the terms and conditions of a permit,.